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U.S. INTELLIGENCE SCANDALS

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(PRESS SCRUTINY)

(GYORGY PARRAGI ARTICLES "THE LATEST SERIES OF SCANDALS OF THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE")

(TEXT) LAST WEEK A SENSATIONAL NEW SCANDAL, A SCANDAL WITHIN THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE, LEAKED OUT. THIS TIME THE MOST SECRET AND MOST IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT, THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, WAS THE SCENE OF AN EMBARRASSING SCANDAL.

THE NSA IS UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE PENTAGON AND THEREFORE SPECIAL MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO INSURE ITS SECRET CHARACTER AT ALL COSTS. HERETOFORE IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE NSA WAS THE MOST INACCESSIBLE OF THE MANY AMERICAN SECRET INTELLIGENCE SERVICES—MUCH MORE SO THAN THAT ENORMOUS ESPIONAGE ORGANIZATION, THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, OR THE FBI, WHICH IS CALLED THE AMERICAN GESTAPO AND IS THE CHIEF SPONSOR OF INTERNAL WITCHHUNTS.

THE FACT THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT KENNEDY HIMSELF INTERVENED IN THE FIRST CASE AND DEFENSE SECRETARY McNAMARA INTERVENED IN THE SECOND SHOWS THE IMPORTANCE ATTRIBUTED TO THE GRAVE ABUSES COMMITTED BY NSA AUTHORITIES.

THE FOLLOWING IS CLEAR FROM FACTS AND THE TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES:

LAST WEEK THE OMNIPOTENT PERSONNEL CHIEF OF NSA, MAURICE H. KLEIN, WAS DISMISSED OVERNIGHT. FOR YEARS HE DECIDED WHO SHOULD BE EMPLOYED AS NSA CONFIDENTIAL AGENTS. UNTIL HIS DISMISSAL HE HAD BEEN THE PLENIPOTENTIARY RULER OF SOME 1,000 AGENTS.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT CAME TO LIGHT THAT MR. KLEIN WAS APPOINTED CHIEF OF PERSONNEL, IN DISREGARD OF ALL MANDATORY PRECAUTIONARY CONSIDERATIONS, ON THE BASIS OF FALSE BIOGRAPHICAL DATA. BLUNTLY SPEAKING, THE GOAT WAS ASSIGNED TO WATCH OVER THE CABBAGE AT THE MOST JEALOUSLY GUARDED INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. KLEIN CONFESSED TO A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE THAT HE CHANGED HIS SIGNATURE IN HIS APPLICATION FORMS, FALSIFIED HIS BIRTH DATE AND HIS MOTHER'S PLACE OF BIRTH, AND SUBMITTED FALSE DATA CONCERNING HIS UNIVERSITY STUDIES. HE CONTINUED THE FALSIFICATIONS WHILE CHIEF OF PERSONNEL. ON THE BASIS OF THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT, ATTORNEY GENERAL KENNEDY ORDERED LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HIM FOR PERJURY AND, AT THE SAME TIME DISMISSED HIM FROM HIS POSITION.

THE AMERICAN PRESS IS AT A LOSS TO ASCERTAIN WHAT COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE AT THE NSA—SABOTAGE, TREASON, OR STUPIDITY? IN ANY EVENT THE AFFAIR HAS GREATLY UNDERMINED FAITH IN NSA'S INFALLIBILITY.

TWO DAYS LATER DEFENSE SECRETARY McNAMARA DEMANDED THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF ANOTHER HIGH-RANKING NSA OFFICIAL, S. WESLEY REYNOLDS, DIRECTOR OF SECURITY. ACCORDING TO THE PENTAGON, REYNOLDS GRAVELY VIOLATED NSA STATUTES WHEN HE ACCEPTED MATERIAL REWARDS AND GIFTS FROM FIRMS DOING JOBS OR SUPPLYING GOODS TO NSA.